



Views of Egypt

An Exhibition
Special Collections 4040 HBLL.

Decorative border of Egyptian hieroglyphs surrounding the central text area. The hieroglyphs are arranged in vertical columns on the left and right sides, and in horizontal rows at the top and bottom. The central text area is a light beige rectangle with a black border.



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VIEWS OF EGYPT

AN EXHIBITION

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VIEWS OF EGYPT

Brigham Young University is honored to host the first United States showing of the exhibit, **RAMSES II: THE PHARAOH AND HIS TIME**. This comprehensive exhibit displays a collection of unique artifacts from the days of Ramses II who ruled Egypt from 1290 to 1224 B.C. The exhibit opens October 25, 1985 at the Monte L. Bean Museum on the Brigham Young University campus.

In conjunction with the Ramses II exhibit, the Harold B. Lee Library at Brigham Young University is pleased to have an exhibition of books, prints, and photographs taken from its Rare Book Collection. This exhibit highlights the magnificent work, *Description de L'Egypte*,—nine folio volumes of text accompanied by fourteen atlas volumes, three of which are elephant folios. The fourteen atlas volumes contain 894 plates.

This twenty-three volume work, published in Paris from 1809–1828, resulted from the first scientific attempt to describe fully and systematically an entire nation. When Napoleon Bonaparte invaded Egypt in July 1798, he assembled a “battalion” of 170 scientists and scholars to accompany his 50,000 soldiers and sailors. These men examined every aspect of the country over a period of five years with the intention of publishing the fullest possible description of Egypt. Publication itself was a massive undertaking and consumed nearly thirty years. The publication of this multi-volume work, coupled with Champollion’s research of the Egyptian language, instigated an interest in the history and culture of Egypt which continues unabated today.

The Harold B. Lee Library is fortunate to own the complete set of the *Description de L'Egypte*. Several volumes of this work are exhibited in the display cases on the third level and in Special Collections on the fourth level of the library. In addition, engravings from the elephant folios have been mounted and framed for display on the walls outside of and inside the Special Collections Reading Room. A list of these plates is included in this catalog.

Several other rare works and photographs are also part of the Harold B. Lee Library’s exhibit. Each is chosen for display for one of two reasons. They either depict an important aspect of Egyptian research since Napoleon’s time or show one of the thousands of “views” which were drawn or photographed in Egypt during the nineteenth century.

We welcome all who are interested to visit the Harold B. Lee Library at Brigham Young University and see its exhibit, “VIEWS OF EGYPT.”

A. North Display Case, Third Level.

France. Commission des Monuments D’Egypte.

Description de L’Egypte, ou, Recueil des Observations et des Recherches qui ont été faites en Egypte pendant l’Expédition de l’Armée Française. Publié par les Ordres de Sa Majesté l’Empereur Napoléon le Grand. Paris: De L’Imprimerie Impériale, 1809–1828.

The publication of all twenty-three volumes of this work spanned three decades. For this publication to take place a great deal of cooperation among scientists and artists was necessary. In this case three of the text volumes are shown in original bindings against the backdrop of an Egyptian scene taken from the first elephant folio volume.

B. South Display Case, Third Level.

THE ROSETTA STONE

We know Egyptian civilization so intimately because of the great number of inscriptions and papyri that have endured the centuries. But the Egyptian language first yielded its secrets only in the 1820’s when the French scholar, Jean Francois Champollion deciphered the hieroglyphics on the famous Rosetta Stone which was found in the Nile Delta in 1799. The Rosetta Stone bears the same text in Greek, in hieroglyphics, and in the Demotic script, used in Egypt after hieroglyphics had gone out of fashion. A reproduction of the Rosetta Stone and two contemporary accounts of the hieroglyphic system—one by Champollion himself—are displayed.

Champollion, Jean Francois

Précis du Système Hiéroglyphique des Anciens Egyptiens; Ou Recherches sur les Elémens Premiers de Cette Ecriture Sacrée, sur leurs diverses Combinaisons, et sur les Rapports de ce Système Avec les Autres Méthodes Graphiques Egyptiennes. Paris: Chez Treuttel et Würtz, 1824.

First edition of Champollion’s research on the hieroglyphic system of writing.

Greppo, J.G.H.

Essay on the Hieroglyphic System of M. Champollion, Jun. And on the advantages which it offers to sacred criticism. Boston: Perkins & Marvin, 1830.

Shortly after the publication of Champollion's *Précis*, scholars from all over the world began to examine Egyptian culture and religion. This work is simply an example of the proliferation of Egyptian studies during the nineteenth century. As Greppo states in his preface, *It is useless for me to mention all that I owe to Champollion who has furnished me materials for nearly the whole of my work.*

C. Special Collections, Fourth Level.

1. *Description de L'Egypte, ou, Recueil des Observations et des Recherches qui ont été faites en Egypte pendant l'Expédition de l'Armée Française. Publié par les Ordres de Sa Majesté l'Empereur Napoléon le Grand.* Paris: De L'Imprimerie Impériale, 1809–1828.

Volume 1 of the fourteen atlas volumes which contain the engraved illustrations of scenes from Egypt. Notice the frontispiece engraving. The set contains 894 similar engravings.

2. *Description de L'Egypte.*

Volume 5 of the fourteen atlas volumes. This view of the Sphinx was drawn and engraved by members of Napoleon's Scientific Commission in 1798.

3. *The Temple of King Sethos I at Abydos.* London: The Egypt Exploration Society, 1935. 4 Volumes.

In this, and the other three table display cases in Special Collections, are four volumes which contain reproductions of The Temple of King Sethos I at Abydos. The Sanctuary of the Temple built at Abydos by Sethos I consisted of a row of seven

chapels, each dedicated to a separate deity. The gods of the seven chapels were the divinities to whom the temple was dedicated. The chapel of each was his own innermost sanctuary where the cult image was kept and tended. The theme in the daily ritual performed in these chapels consisted of a number of episodes recording the approach to the shrine, the purification of the deity, and his adornment with clean apparel and the appropriate insignias. This case contains volume 1 of a set of four. A reproduction from the chapels of Osiris, Isis, and Horus at the Temple of King Sethos I at Abydos is shown.

4. *The Temple of King Sethos I at Abydos*. London: The Egypt Exploration Society, 1935.

Volume 2 of this work contains this reproduction from the Chapels of Amen-Re, Re Harakhti, Ptah, and King Sethos.

5. Sethe, Kurt

Die Altaegyptischen Pyramidentext nach den Papierabdrucken und Photographien des Berliner Museums. Leipzig: J.C. Hinrichs'sche Buchhandlung, 1922.

The pyramids in Egypt have been the object of intense study for hundreds of years. This work examines the Egyptian pyramid texts taken from engravings and photographs in the museums of Berlin.

6. Budge, E.A. Wallis

The Egyptian Heaven and Hell. London: Kegan, Paul, Trench, Trubner, & Co., 1906.

The two books displayed here depict the interest shown in the study of Egyptian religion. They contain the complete hieroglyphic text of the Book of Am-Duat, with the translations and reproductions of all the illustrations. Some of the chapters deal with the origins and contents of the "Books of the Other World."

7. Spohn, Friedrich Augustus Wilhelm

De Lingua et Literis Veterum Aegypteorum. Leipzig: Weidmann, 1825.

Spohn, a noted German philologist, wrote this treatise on the language and literature of the ancient Egyptians. It was printed one year after Champollion wrote his work on the Rosetta Stone. One of twelve folding plates is displayed.

8. *Select Papyri in the Hieratic Character from the Collections of the British Museum.* London: W. Nicol, 1844.

Shortly after Napoleon's excursion to Egypt and Champollion's translation of the Rosetta Stone, an extreme amount of worldwide interest in "things Egyptian" surfaced. This interest is evidenced by the publication, in facsimile, of thirteen papyri dated from the time of Ramses III to Menephtah III.

9. **Book of the Dead.**

The Papyrus of Ani, a Reproduction in Facsimile, edited, with Hieroglyphic Transcript, Translation and Introduction, by E.A. Wallis Budge. London: Philip Lee Warner, 1913.

The famous Egyptian **Book of the Dead** brings together stories of the gods, hymns, and prayers. It teaches us much of what we know of Egyptian religion. A reproduction of part of the Papyrus of Ani, which contained a large portion of the corpus of texts written for the benefit of the dead, is displayed.

10. *Inscriptions in the Hieratic and Demotic Character, from the Collections of the British Museum.* London: Longman and Co., 1868.

In addition to writing upon papyrus, the Egyptians also inscribed accounts of historical events upon stone. In 1868 The British Museum published facsimiles of these types of inscriptions. The inscription displayed contains the name and title of Ramses IX and his address to the God Ra. This plate is half the size of the original.

11. *The Temple of King Sethos I at Abydos*. London: The Egypt Exploration Society, 1935. 4 Volumes.

Volume 3 of this work contains this reproduction from the Osiris Complex of the Temple of King Sethos I at Abydos.

12. *Memoirs Relative to Egypt, Written in that Country During the Campaigns of General Bonaparte, in the Years 1798 and 1799, by the Learned and Scientific Men Who Accompanied The French Expedition*. London: R. Phillips, 1800.

When the expedition of the French to Egypt took place in 1798, a scientific commission of 170 men accompanied Napoleon. The work displayed here contains some independent observations of these persons. It consists of a number of papers on various topics relating to Egypt and was a precursor to *Description de L’Egypte*.

13. **Champollion, Jean Francois**

Précis du Système Hiéroglyphique des Anciens Egyptiens; Ou Recherches sur les Elémens Premiers de Cette Ecriture Sacrée, sur leurs diverses Combinaisons, et sur les Rapports de ce Système Avec les Autres Méthodes Graphiques Egyptiennes. Paris: Treuttel et Würtz, 1824.

This is Volume 2 of Champollion’s *Précis du Système Hiéroglyphique des Anciens Egyptiens*. It contains the plates which illustrated the process by which he translated the Rosetta Stone.

14. **Roberts, David**

The Holy Land: Syria, Idumea, Arabia, Egypt, Nubia. London: Day & Son, 1855. 5 Volumes.

In 1855, David Roberts, a noted traveler and explorer of his day, published several volumes of lithographs, many of which depicted scenes of Egypt. These scenes were drawn “on the spot” by Roberts himself. Volume 5 which treats Egypt is here displayed.

15. Pettigrew, Thomas Joseph

A History of Egyptian Mummies, and an Account of the Worship and Embalming of the Sacred Animals by the Egyptians; with Remarks on the Funeral Ceremonies of Different Nations, and Observations on the Mummies of the Canary Islands, of the Ancient Peruvians, Burman Priests, &c. London: Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown, Green, and Longman, 1834.

In the early 1800's, scholars all over the world expressed an enormous amount of interest in Egyptian religion. This plate depicts several representations of Osiris and Isis, the greatest Egyptian deities.

16. Book of the Dead.

The Papyrus of Ani, a Reproduction in Facsimile, edited, with Hieroglyphic Transcript, Translation and Introduction, by E.A. Wallis Budge. London: Philip Lee Warner, 1913. 2 Volumes.

Volume 2 of the **Book of the Dead** contains the textual explanation of the plates found in Volume 1 (No. 9).

17. Naville, Edouard

The XIth Dynasty Temple at Deir El-Bahari. Thirtieth Memoir of The Egypt Exploration Fund. London: The Offices of The Egypt Exploration Fund, 1910.

In the early 1900's interest in Egyptian exploration was still high. This volume, published in 1910, was the thirtieth publication in this set of the London based Egypt Exploration Fund. It contains reproductions of the XIth Dynasty Temple at Deir El-Bahari. Plate XVI from Part II depicts the south side of the temple. Here the Princess in a light green dress holds a lotus flower. Among the inscriptions reproduced here is the mention of the holy house of Mentuhotep, the name of the temple.

18. Naville, Edouard

The XIth Dynasty Temple at Deir El-Bahari. Thirty-Second Memoir of The Egypt Exploration Fund. London: The Offices of The Egypt Exploration Fund, 1910.

The thirty-second publication of the Egypt Exploration Fund reproduces a painting in the Tomb of Kemsit. Around the wall of the tomb, “at about one foot from the roof, is a band of painted scenes, resembling those depicted on the sarcophagi.” Plate III from Part II shows what one sees in front of the entrance.

19. *The Temple of King Sethos I at Abydos.* London: The Egypt Exploration Society, 1935.

Volume 4 of this work contains this reproduction from the Second Hypostyle Hall at the Temple of King Sethos I at Abydos.

PLATES FROM THE ELEPHANT FOLIOS OF *DESCRIPTION DE L'EGYPTE*. WALL DISPLAY.

1. Edfou. “Vue Perspective du Pylone et de la Cour du Grand Temple.” Plate 61, Volume I.

View of Pylon and of the Court of the Great Temple of Edfu

2. Edfou. “Vue du Grand Temple.” Plate 49, Volume I.

View of the Great Temple of Edfu

3. Pyramides De Memphis. “Vue Générale des Pyramides et du Sphinx.” Plate 8, Volume I.

View of the Pyramids and the Sphinx of Memphis

4. Thebes. “Vue du Pavillon Prise Au Nord du Temple du Coté de L'Ouest.” Plate 15, Volume I.

View of the North Wing of the Temple of Thebes Taken from the West

5. Thebes. Karnak. "Vue Perspective du Palais de L'Intérieur de la Cour du Côté de L'Ouest." Plate 41, Volume III.
View of the West Interior Court of the Temple of Karnak
6. Thebes. Memnonium. "Vue Générale du Tombeau D'Osymandyas, Prise du Sud-Ouest." Plate 24, Volume II.
General View of the Tomb of Ozymandias, Taken from the Southwest
7. Thebes. Memnonium. "Vue du Péristyle du Tombeau et des Debris de la Statue Colossale D'Osymandyas, Prise de L'Ouest." Plate 25, Volume II.
View of the Peristyle of the Tomb and of the Debris of the Colossal Statue of Ozymandias, Taken from the West
8. Thebes. Karnak. "Elévation Perspective de la Porte du Sud." Plate 56, Volume III.
Elevated Perspective of the South Gate of Karnak
9. Thebes. Louqsor. "Vue de L'Entrée du Palais." Plate 3, Volume III.
View of the Temple Entrance at Luxor
10. Thebes. Memnomium. "Vue du Tombeau d'Osymandyas, et du Partie de La Chaine Lybique, Prise du Nord-Est." Plate 26, Volume II.
View of the Tomb of Ozymandias, and of Part of the Lybian Chain, Taken from the Northeast
11. Thebes. Karnak. "Vue des Ruines de la Salle Hypostyle et des Appartemens de Granit du Palais." Plate 18, Volume III.
View of the Ruins of the Hypostyle Hall and Granite Apartments of the Temple of Karnak
12. Thebes. Karnak. "Vue de la Porte et des Temples du Sud." Plate 49, Volume III.
View of the Gate and the South Temples of Karnak
13. Denderah. Tentyris. "Vue Perspective de la Façade du Portique du Grand Temple." Plate 29, Volume IV.
View of the Portal Facade of the Great Temple of Denderah

PHOTOGRAVURES OF EGYPTIAN SCENES, 1893. WALL CASES AND NORTH WALL DISPLAY.

In the mid-nineteenth century French and British imperial interest in the countries of the Middle East lured photographers into those regions, especially Egypt. Many of the photographs printed during this time display a concern for accurate scale, as seen by the “human yardsticks” found posing among the Egyptian ruins. Some forty photographers from Europe and the United States are known to have been attracted to Egypt before 1880. A number of them remained in Egypt and established photographic businesses which catered to the tourist trade.

Seventeen such photographs, printed in Paris in 1893, are displayed in the seven wall cases in the Special Collections Reading Room and also along the north wall. They are part of a portfolio of photographs, entitled *Egypt: Heliogravures After Original Views*, by R. M. Junghaendel, a German who worked in Egypt in the 1890's. These “photogravures” were printed through the use of copper plates, etched in intaglio. Such plates were inked, the top surface wiped clean, and dampened paper pressed against them under heavy pressure. The photogravures exhibited were printed on heavy linen paper.

Junghaendel, R. Max

Egypt: Heliogravures After Original Views. With a Preface by C.G. Rawlinson.
Paris: Cosmos Art Publishing Co., 1893.

1. Pyramides de El-Gise. Plate VI.
Pyramids of Giza
2. Grand Temple de Karnac. Plate XIII.
Great Temple of Karnak
3. Porte de Ptolémée II à Philae. Plate XXIV.
Gate of Ptolemy II at Philae
4. Sphinx de El-Gise. Plate VII.
Sphinx of Giza

5. Temple d'Horus à Edfou. Plate XXI.
Temple of Horus at Edfu
6. Ramesseum à Thebes. Plate XVIII.
Ramesseum at Thebes
7. Salle Hypostyle du Temple d'Isis à Philae. Plate XXIII
Hypostyle Hall of the Temple of Isis at Philae
8. Colosses de Memnon à Thebes. Plate XIX.
Colossus of Memnon at Thebes
9. Grand Obélisque de Karnac. Plate XIV.
Great Obelisk of Karnak
10. Temple d'Ammon à Louksor. Plate X.
Temple of Amun at Luxor
11. Memnonium de Seti I à Abydos. Plate VIII.
Memnonium of Sethos I at Abydos
12. Cour du Temple d'Isis à Philae. Plate XXII.
Courtyard of the Temple of Isis at Philae
13. Allée des Sphinx à Karnac. Plate XI.
Avenue of the Sphinx at Karnak
14. Temple de Khons à Karnac. Plate XII.
Temple of Khons at Karnak
15. Temple de Der-el-Medinet. Plate XX.
Temple of Deir-El-Medina
16. Temple de Der-el-Bahir. Plate XVI.
Temple of Deir-El-Bahari
17. Kiosque de Trajane à Philae. Plate XXV.
Kiosk of Trajan at Philae

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